

Regular Meeting

April 3, 2023

The Regular Meeting of Souderton Borough Council, held on the above date, was called to order by Council President Tracy W. Burke at 7:00 p.m. President Burke reminded the members and audience that the Borough Council meeting is being recorded and will be posted to the Borough web site.

Borough Councillor Daryl Littlefield provided the Invocation, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Borough Secretary P. Michael Coll conducted a Roll Call with the following members of Borough Council and staff present:

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| President Tracy W. Burke | Mayor Daniel L. Yocum |
| Councillor Edward M. Huber | Junior Councillor Elijah S. Steglik |
| Councillor Matthew J. DiNenna | Junior Councillor Estrela T. Sadiboko |
| Councillor Daryl W. Littlefield | |
| Councillor Julie A. Munden | Borough Manager P. Michael Coll |
| Councillor Donna M. Rogers | Solicitor Robert G. Bricker |
| Councillor Matthew R. Sholly | Police Chief Brian Newhall |
| Councillor Courtnee Wampole | Public Works Director Steven Coll |

Borough Councillor Richard Walczak was absent from the meeting.

Consideration was given to the minutes of the March 6, 2023 Regular Borough Council Meeting and the March 13, 2023 Borough Council Work Session.

A motion was made by Councillor Julie Munden, and seconded by Councillor Matthew Sholly, to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2023 Regular Borough Council Meeting as presented. The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Councillor Daryl Littlefield, and seconded by Councillor Donna Rogers, to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2023 Borough Council Work Session Meeting as presented. The motion was approved.

Mayor Daniel Yocum discussed the history of Jeremiah Wisler believed to have served as the Burgess of Souderton Borough and the establishment of the Wisko cigar factory which is now a single family dwelling at 59 Highland Avenue. At the request of the current owner, Mayor Yocum presented the following Proclamation naming Wisko Alley in recognition of the history and in dedication to Jeremiah Wisler:

**A PROCLAMATION NAMING WISKO ALLEY IN RECOGNITION
AND IN DEDICATION TO JEREMIAH WISLER.**

WHEREAS, Jeremiah Wisler was a resident of the Borough of Souderton and lived at the corner of Penn Avenue and Highland Avenue from July 1909 through 1979; and

WHEREAS, Souderton Borough has a long history of cigar manufacturing and Jeremiah Wisler was the Foreman for Eisenlohr's, another cigar factory in town. In 1908, he purchased the vacant lot at Penn Avenue and Highland Avenue on which he would build his home, which he moved into on July 9, 1909. Shortly after, he began manufacturing his own brand of cigars from his home; and

WHEREAS, Jeremiah "Jerry" Wisler was an enterprising businessman in Souderton. Shortly after he began manufacturing his own cigars from his home, which became so popular that a few months later in 1909, he built a factory on the back of his lot. He carried on the long tradition of cigar-making that put Souderton on the map, with as many as 24 cigar factories operating in town between 1850 and 1925. One of those factories was Wisko Cigars which operated in a small building in the back of the property located at the Southeast corner of Penn and Highland Avenues; and

WHEREAS, Jeremiah Wisler also served on Souderton Borough Council, and became Burgess (later called "Mayor") in 1937 upon the death of his predecessor Jerome Landes. He presided over Souderton Borough's "Half Century of Progress" Celebration, where it was noted that he gave one of the most eloquent addresses of welcome ever heard at a local celebration. In that presentation, according to the book "The History of Indian Valley and its Bank", Wisler noted that "Natives of Souderton had spread to locations in distant parts of the world" and attributed the town's success to a "belief in Law and Order, and the goodness of God".

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Daniel L. Yocum, Mayor of the Borough of Souderton, joined by the members of Souderton Borough Council recognize the historical significance and dedication of Jeremiah Wisler to Souderton Borough and hereby name the alley upon which the Wisko cigar factory boarded as Wisko Alley.

PROCLAIMED this 3rd day of April, 2023.

Police Chief Brian Newhall, surrounded by the members of the Souderton Police Department, honored the service of Police Officer Bernard Greenberg who joined the department in 2013. Former Police Chief James P. Leary further remarked on the service of Officer Greenberg. Chief Leary worked with Officer Greenberg in Abington since 1998 and again during his career in Souderton Borough. Police Chief Newhall presented Officer Greenberg with his retirement badge in honor of his dedicated service.

Mayor Daniel Yocum noted that National Library Week is scheduled for April 23 through April 29, 2023. In recognition of National Library Week, Mayor Yocum

presented the following Proclamation:

A PROCLAMATION CELEBRATING NATIONAL LIBRARY
WEEK, APRIL 23-29, 2023 IN SOUDERTON BOROUGH

WHEREAS, today's libraries are more about what they can do with and for their communities, and not just about what they have on the shelves; and

WHEREAS, libraries have long served as trusted institutions, often the heart of their cities, towns, schools, and academic campuses; and

WHEREAS, libraries serve people of all ages, interests and backgrounds providing the resources and space to engage in life-long learning; and

WHEREAS, libraries offer equipment and professional staff support to utilize technology, programs and services; often free or with nominal charges to users; and

WHEREAS, libraries are a resource for all - regardless of race, ethnicity, creed, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity or socio-economic status; and

WHEREAS, we recognize librarians as information professionals who provide expertise, services and guidance for patrons to access credible sources and material, making their own informed decisions about the world today; and

WHEREAS, libraries provide access to and display a wide range of information not just a majority opinion or single perspective; and

WHEREAS, librarians hold the professional values of diversity, equity and inclusion to meet the needs of all users; and

WHEREAS, the PA Forward®, Literacy is POWER, initiative highlights how libraries and staffs encourage literacy in Basic, Information, Civic & Social, Health, and Financial, which contributes to greater personal and community success; and

WHEREAS, America is celebrating National Library Week including April 25 as National Library Workers' Day and the immeasurable contributions made by library workers; April 26 as National Outreach Day showing library services are not limited to their physical location; and April 27 as Take Action for Libraries Day encouraging community support for libraries.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Daniel L. Yocum, Mayor of the Borough of Souderton, joined by the members of Souderton Borough Council, proclaim National Library Week,

April 23-29, 2023 in the Borough of Souderton. During this week, we encourage all residents to visit our libraries, and explore all that they offer to help move PA Forward®!

PROCLAIMED this 3rd day of April, 2023.

Police Chief Brian Newhall summarized the monthly report of police department activities. Chief Newhall noted that the Pennsylvania legislature is again concerning the municipal use of radar for speed control. The legislation reportedly has a clause restricting radar use to only those communities with speed limits above 40 mph, which would preclude the Borough from using radar. The Bus Patrol program with the Souderton Area School District has been implemented.

The Borough Solicitor's report for the month of March, 2023 was submitted to Borough Council. The Borough Solicitor prepared the Opinion and Decision regarding the Conditional Use Hearing for applicant School Lane Development, LLC on February 27, 2023. The Solicitor reviewed and commented on the License Agreement between Brass Collar Brewing Company and the firm that will be providing food service at the Freight Building.

Public Works Director Steven Coll circulated his monthly report to members of Borough Council. Crews will begin brush and leaf collection this week throughout the Borough. Construction of the plaza at the Freight Building will be a priority project beginning with the construction of the concrete retaining walls. The Borough is planning to complete the replacement of a section of sewer main and laterals in the 400 block of Wile Avenue. The road will then be milled and a new base course will be paved ahead of the pool season and the beginning of Concert Sundaes.

Borough Manager Michael Coll noted that the Souderton Planning Commission will meet on April 5, 2023 to begin review of the proposed land development plan revision to locate a Starbucks restaurant in the Towne Gate Commons development fronting East Broad Street. A new subdivision plan has been submitted by Gerald Peklak concerning properties at W. Reliance Road and Harleysville Pike. The plan is proposing to create a single family building lot on W. Reliance Road.

The Borough Manager reported there is no planned new business for this meeting.

Councillor Matthew Sholly reported that the Public Safety Committee met with Police Chief Newhall. Further discussion will be held at the April Borough Council Work Session.

Councillor Julie Munden reported that the Lafayette College Meyner Center is scheduled to meet with our Borough Manager of April 27, 2023 as part of their preparations for the new Borough Manager search in the fall.

Councillor Edward Huber that the Concession Stand Lease Agreement has been finalized. The Borough is making good progress with the new bathroom and kitchen building in the Community Park. President Tracy Burke noted resident concerns with some juvenile misuse of the exercise equipment in the Community Park. Parents should be more vigilant with their children with the use of the playground equipment to avoid potential injury.

Councillor Daryl Littlefield noted that Borough Council office hours are scheduled for Saturday, April 15, 2023 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm in the lobby of the Souderton Municipal Building. Borough Council will have a table at the Souderton Connects Third Friday events beginning in May.

Councillor Daryl Littlefield also reported that Borough Council is planning an Earth Day clean up event for Saturday, April 22 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Groups will meet at the Municipal Building and general clean is planned around the Community Park, Pool and along N. Front Street.

Consideration was given to paying the bills for the month of March, 2023.

GENERAL FUND

Advance Auto Parts	\$126.42	Fire Protection Services, LLC	\$120.00
Atek Business Systems, Inc.	151.96	George Allen Portable Toilets	324.00
Atek Business Systems, Inc.	2,544.25	Gilmore & Associates, Inc.	5,567.47
Comcast	655.97	Gouldey Welding & Fabrication	2,810.57
Crystal Springs	138.36	H & K Materials	291.00
D. Dager	125.00	Hajoca Corporation	489.50
FP Finance Program	359.00	Home Depot	154.69
Good Plumbing Heating A/C, Inc.	622.54	IV Chamber of Commerce	730.71
Home Depot	395.91	John R. Young & Co.	865.15
J. P. Mascaro & Sons	75,619.05	Mary E. Gladwell	260.00
NAPA Auto Parts	37.66	Maryjane Yoder	174.95
Nationwide Trust 457 Company	27,391.60	Montgomery County Consortium	250.00
Nationwide Trust 457 Company	2,030.16	Moyer Indoor/Outdoor	2,395.98
North American Benefits Company	1,533.88	NetCarrier Telecom, Inc.	318.48
North Penn Water Authority	322.82	Pendergast Safety Equipment	277.12
PECO Energy	756.65	PPL Electric Utilities	2,654.14
Petty Cash	154.38	Propet Distributors, Inc.	220.40
Univest Bank & Trust Company	894.45	Rodney Shoemaker Plumbing	3,063.15
Unum Insurance Company	1,469.07	Shelly Building Supply	6.59
Verizon Wireless	260.58	Something Better, Inc.	1,100.00
Wise Electric	773.00	Steven R. Coll	317.36
21 st Century Media	195.83	Styer Associates	6,100.00
Bearing & Drive Solutions	82.15	Suburban Propane	176.34
Bennington Pool Services, LLC	45,971.25	TRM-Telford Recycling Material	435.00
Bergey's, Inc.	72.00	U S Municipal Supply, Inc.	577.10
Clemens Uniform Rental	271.48	Univest VISA	381.24
Cope's Garage, Inc.	2,479.82	Unum Insurance Company	1,469.07

D. L. Beardsley, Ltd.	\$317.20	Upper Gwynedd Township	\$1,000.00
Davidheisers, Inc.	93.00	Verizon	75.10
Delta Dental Gettysburg Benefit	1,487.28	Verizon Wireless	166.34
Dianna M. Fields	737.84		
DS Automotive	1,253.00	Total General Fund	\$202,095.01

SEWER FUND

Home Depot	\$142.06	Design Plastic Systems, Inc.	\$1,850.00
Nationwide Trust 457 Company	553.68	EVOQUA Water Technologies	4,928.85
Nationwide Trust Company	69.21	Hajoca Corporation	13,672.72
North American Benefits Company	299.91	Home Depot	18.94
North Penn Water Authority	122.95	J. P. Mascaro & Sons	5,146.19
Precision Solutions, Inc.	411.56	NetCarrier Telecom, Inc.	110.66
Suburban Water Testing Labs	2,598.00	P. K. Moyer & Sons, Inc.	3,341.25
Unum Insurance Company	283.18	PPL Electric Utilities	16,823.50
Wise Electric	2,424.19	SC Engineers, Inc.	1,485.00
Cintas First Aid & Safety	290.89	Suburban Water Testing Labs	1,848.00
Clemens Septic Services	600.00	Unum Insurance Company	283.18
Clemens Uniform Rental	189.14	USA Blue Book	216.03
Coyne Chemical	5,040.00	Verizon	85.31
Delaware River Basin Commission	961.00	West Generator Services	22,130.10
Delta Dental Gettysburg Benefit	308.60	Total Sewer Fund	\$86,234.10

POOL FUND

NetCarrier Telecom, Inc.	\$91.79	PPL Electric Utilities	\$156.90
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CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Franconia Township	\$138.07	J. I. Landis Welding	\$1,653.08
Green Terra Disposal	495.00	Phillips & Donovan Architects	8,065.00
CKS Engineers, Inc.	2,573.12	Todd Moyer Painting	6,000.00
Green Terra Disposal	495.00	Total Capital Reserve Fund	\$19,419.27

LIQUID FUELS FUND

PPL Electric Utilities	\$7,531.67
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A motion was made by Councillor Matthew Sholly, and seconded by Councillor Daryl Littlefield, to authorize the payment of bills for the month of March, 2023 and the recurring expenses for the month of April, 2023, as presented. The motion was approved.

President Tracy Burke opened the floor to the audience for public comment.

James P. Leary, 360 Wile Avenue, Souderton commented in 2010 Souderton Borough Council made a conscious decision to reconstruct the Souderton Community Pool with great success. We now look at the progress with the habitation of the Souderton

Community Park and the addition of the new playground which is enjoyed by our community families.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

P. Michael Coll, Secretary